

He is insistent in bringing to the reader's

attention the distinction that the victories

in mayal construction during the recent

period which has developed our White Squadror have not been so much in the

making of ships as in the making of the men who can make the ships. Though we

have been humiliated several times in our

enforced position of going to foreign na

tions for brains we may now believe with

pride that we have in our own lines the

skill, the tools, and the materials to build

a pacy which will in time lift us from fifth to first piace among the sea powers.

The illustrations alone of Mr. Spea a sistory are a liberal education on the sub-

ect. There are over 400 portraits, pic

tures of sea fights from famous paintings

hagrams of years, maps showing the field:

of engagements and other pictorial ex-

pletives, while telling the story in a graphic

rapid and impressive manner. This featur-

must have engaged the author's earnest at

tention for a considerable time for it i

probably as thorough as the compass a

Scribne's Sons. Washington: All Book sellers. 4 vols. \$8.)

More Colonial Homes.

The utiquitous antiquarians in search

of fuel for the fire of patriotic colonial

interest are covering the same ground

Not long ago w

in some to-tances. Not long ago to gave an account of a volume by Mark

Hatlands descriptive of old pre-Revolutionary homes, and since then there had

appearently, cuod crius, by 8 ydnsy George Fisher, on "Men, Women and Manners of Calonial Thors," In large part the in-

ent of the tooks is identical; some of

the places described in each are the same

but Mr. Fisher's work is much more con

prebensive, and, torrowing from the lat-

tude of his subject, he has been able to give a diversified flavor, which is charm-

ing. Mr. Pisher is not merely a connot-seur of his satisfied, but he is a gracefu

historian, two accomplishments which

bland with a happy resultant in his spi-

ited and synquelectic accounts of the nan and women of the middle of the last cen-

Mr. Fisher calls attention to a significant

fact for the reason of the interest, and

from patriotic motives, which the study of the colonies has for us. It is their va-

riety. From Massachusetts to the Carolinas the traveler passed through communities of

such distinct individualities that they were aimest like different nations. Each 'aid

been founded for a reason and a purpose

laws neculiar to itself, and it was not on

ne a contradiction to there of anoth r

of its own. Each had a set of opinions and

n to had the laws and opinions .

The Centennial Exposition

1876 Lautiched a positive influence, labelled

Ron anesque, with all manner of grotesque

has been evercome and we have discovered that here at home we have a type better

worth readopting.
One can infer the actual subject of

*Mr. Fisner's chapters from their relative

only to the Virginians. Puritans and

Philosophy characterizes the Massachusetts colonists. The Land of Steady Habits

is, of course, a chapter on Connecticut, just as Rhode Inland, because of Roger

Williams, is pleasantly disguised under its other name, The Isle of Errors. The

White Mountains and the Green caps a

Vermont and New Hampshire forefathers

Nova Caesara will not stand in all min't

Manahttan and the Tappan Zee is a rescatch

into the men and manners of early New York: Furitan and Catholic on the Chesa-

peake is palpably indicative of Maryland colonial love; Landgraves, Pirates and

Casiques is devoted to the Carolinas:

Trees closes the volume with a study it

beautiful and appropriate. No better or

more diverting book could be presented for a gift at any time than Mr. Fisher's

& Co. Washington: Wm. Ballantyne &

"The Cid Campeador."

Putnam's" Heroesof the Nation" Serieshas

received an addition to its long list, in the

recent publication of H. Butler Clarke's

life of "The Cld Campendor." Spain has

not before been represented in this, and

it is fitting that it should first be repre-

sented by its typical hero. Although the

Cid was a person in fact, his character was a firtitious and posthumous accretion-

In propria persona be was a daring warrior

but his arms were not always strong for

justice. As Mr. Clarke points out: "He

was unfit to be the hero of a great nation;

but his compatriots soon forgot his cruelt;

his selfish an bition, and his lack of pa

triotism, and, remembering only his heroic

calor, and his efforts in a great cause, they

by the mouth of the minstrels, endowed him

with all the virtues and graces." The Cid

is merely a name around which the Span-

iards have grouped the qualities they most admire, rather than an actual person who

He flourished at a critical epoch in Spain's

history and his life with all the side lights is large? the chronicle of the important

events of the latter half of the eleventh

century in the peninsular nation. It was

the period of the beginning of the end of

Clarke has grouped these bearings into an

Spain could not help being, and accurate

as such a careful scholar as this writer's

eputation assures it must be.

The illustrations in the book are more

valuable than beautiful, a distinctive

aracen supremacy in the West Mr.

narrative, told with much

sed these qualities.

Wosgen, and Manners of Colvaid " (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippin at

eorgian colonists. The pictures

Times."

Sons. \$30

hapter which recites the virtue

ness and Institutional concert, but even

the book permitted. (New York: Charle,

"The History of Our Navy." Considerations of timedness and antecedent deficiency in that portion of our literature make doubly welcome the "History of Our Navy," by John R. Spears. As the author of "The Port of Missing As the natter of "The Fort of Missing 8hipe" and "The Gold Diggings of Cape Horn" this water has made short ex-cursions on the waters of literature, but in his latest work to sails away on an Important and significant voyage. His metery is in four bandsome illustrated volumes and covers the entire period of the existence of our Navy from its in-ception to this year, 1897. It bears every evidence of thoroughness of studious acquaintance with the most minute details of the extensive subject, touching interestingly on our naval biography and beroism, our fights in native and foreign waters, and the progressive growth o navet construction, from its crude begin nings up to the present elaborate, intricite

and expensive engines of war, or, as som The books are timely because there has grown recently a significant interest in the naval branch of our national defense, and the people are awakening to a conscious pre-eminence among sea powers. It will probably be received with grateful in-terest by a ter ding public, who have made Capt. Malum's naval writings so generally familiar, and who have delved eagerly into every offering of sea fiction, for Mr Spenzs' work is deficient in petter inpostance nor engaging narrative. As a record for the library it will rank at once as indispensable to all naval architects.

constructors, commanders and students.
Our first navy consisted of sight long The marines were sixty four row boats. men of the town of Providence, volun-The equipment was a few tireatms and a liberal cupply of round paying stoner. They fought the first angul engagement at 2 o'clock on the moreing of the 18th of June, 1772 in the waters meat Providence. This significant incl dent is worth recalling in its interesting

on the course of the man-of-war gons, belorast on the man-of-war gons, belorast on the two war vessels while ste was on her regular passage from New York to Provincine. As the Hammah ranged up near the vessels she was ordered to neave to, in order that her papers might be examined, but Capi. Linger, being frivored by a mart southerly wind that was rapidly carrying thin out of range of the man-of-war gons, belorast on his course.

of thise of the man-of-war gans, held fast on his course.

At this the schooner Gasp; was advised to follow and hims hack for offending shop, and, with all salis dia wing, she obeyed the order. For a matter of twenty-live miles that was as eaget and as even a race as any saller man would care to see, but when that length of course mad been sailed over the tacers found themselves close up at the Providence har. The Yankee knew his ground as he knew the deck of his shop, but the captain of the Gaspe was unfamiliar with it. A few minites later the shock-draft Hannah was crossing the lar at a point where she could barely scrape over and the deeper draft Gaspe, in trying to follow at full speed, was grounded nard and fast. To make matters still worse for the traspe, the tide was just beginning to who not nor many nours could her crew keepet float her. hopets float hat.

Leaving we even y in this plight Capt. Linese sailed into Providence part. Had the new she brought come before the days of renewed and more tently unjust English to v ation the matter might have been looked has a a capital lake on a revenue cult-c. But the matter was taken in a serious light. As the sum went down the towa districts and with the leng roll and tatoo by which public meetings were called be gathered the second set of the towa under a borse-shed that stood near one of the larger stores and looking the water. While yet the proper tooking the water. While yet the proper was a sum indian appeared on the roof and mutted all "stood heart one of the larger stores and disguised as an indian appeared on the roof and mutted all "stood heart one of the larger stores and disguised as an indian appeared on the roof and mutted all "stood heart one of the larger stores and the second stood and mutted all "stood heart on the whart at 0 octook, disguised as an indian appeared on the special of the stood and mutted all "stood heart on the whart at 0 octook, disguised as an indian appeared on the chosen. Tradition has it that Abrasam with provided the second stood of the stood and the second stood of the stood of the stood of the stood of the second stood of the second stood of the stood of the stood of the second stood of the second stood of the second stood of the stood of the second stood of the stood of the second But the matter was taken in a serious light. As the sun went down the town chosen commander of this necturnal exneiffen. The rowed away, eight to a tent, in eight small hoats gathered from the vessels at anchor in the harbor. Their atomicent was a few pertols and abundance.

ed butter butter by was 2 o'clock in the morning when It was 2 o'clock in the morning when this galley freet arrived in sight of the stranded staspe. The tide had turned by this time and the achooner had begon to right itself samewhat. A sentimel, pacing to and free with some difficulty, saw the approaching beats and falled them. A shower of paying stones was the most effective if not the only reply he received, and he tumbled down below precipitately. The notific and crash of the pacing stones on the deck foated the Crew from their beeths, and, rimning histily on deck, the captain of the dispet fired a pistol point bladk at his assailants. At that a single market was fined from the boat, by whom it will bever be known, and the captain drupped with a bullet in his tigh. Then the basis closed about the strainled vessel and their crew's swarmed over the rails. The stainers of the Gaspe, strove to resist the on-slaught, but they were quickly knocked down and secured. As soon as this was done the schooner was effectually fired, and the captors, with their prisoners, pulled

This was the first first American room em von on water. It was a victory for may also point with pride to fact that it was in the two bouses of her ingrishiture that it was first concurred in ordering her representatives in the Congress to propose the establishment of navy, "at the expense of the continent. the news of the coming Hessians, and the renewed aggressions of the British, on November 25 of that year naval commiions were ordered issued and our Nav spreng into existence. The first was ships of 32 runs, five of 28 guns, three of 24 guns, making in the whole thir The cost was not to be "more than 66,666 2-3 dollars each, on an aver age, allowing two complete suits of mils for each ship."

From these interesting beginnings the author carries as through the memorable and creditable engagements of the two at a ble wars with England, the incidental tights before, and the notable sea battles of the civil war, and the achievements of our the growth and improvement in our naval these engagements are given with anch free and fresh spirit that, joined with the attendant patriotism they inevitably arouse one is carried from page to page as if the text were that of a remantic fiction instead of a bloody actual history, mel lowed and colored softly by perspective

As at the close of the Revolution so at the close of the war of secession the war ships were sold for merchant marine much as shop-worn goods. This act and the period of inactivity following up to the administration of Secretary of William H. Hunt are the subject of a die cossion which shares almost equal dis putants. But there is no question of Mr. Spears' position, for he speaks boldly of the so-called economy of this period and the permitting other nations to do the ex-

But the fact is we did not and could not

quality, for which they were inserted. The age of the Cid has left scarcely a monument inscription or illustrated document bearing pon its history, so that in order to ilestrate the volume the author has used drawings of places by his friend, Don Santiago Arcos, with whom he visited the most famous sites connected with the history of the Cid. There are in addition many maps, as well as facsimiles of docu-ments and coins. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Washington; Brentano. \$1.50. benefit by their experience to any degree worth serious consideration. Neither the individual man not the aggregation of men called a nation can take advantage of the apprenticesing which another man or nation has served. I do not hope to have this statement believed by those to whom the only fruition of life and labor is a dollar. But there are some who understand that national character, like individual character, is of more importance than dollars that the very cluckling over the dollars we saved "while other nations were experimenting for us" is contemptible; that, to take another and more material point of view, what we lost in the development of the brains of our mechanics and inventors by letting the other nations do the "experimenting for us" was of infinitely greater value than the whole revenue of the instion. It is not the loss of a product of ships that is to be deplored, but the loss of a preduct of men. Travels in Sicily.

It was Goethe who said, "Italy without Sicily leaves no image on the soul-Sicily is thekey to all," and William Agnew Paton. in the preface to his beautifulnew volume. "Picturesque Sicily," points out that of American books on Sicily there are none. and of English books there is a plentiful lack, which, at first thought, seems absurd, but upon consideration argues itself into a fact. As an entity in the general sum ofknowledge.it stands for a picture sque island which rises out of the Mediterranean. as a foundation for Actna and a play ground for brigands it looms indistinct in a mist of mystery, but there is an atmosphere of romance and a suggestion of

Mr. Paton's account of a Journey through the island is one of the most delightful books of travel which has been published in some time. He traveled not alone with his eyes and a notebook, but with an alert imagination and the appreciation of a scholarly aptiquarian, before whom there were always two Sicilys one of today, the other of a temote yesterday. With these admirable qualifications he couples a style of easy flow and a marked talent for at-tractive descriptions. His pictures are very vivid because without tedium he works into

shadowing its Liture greatness and the Bowery began putting on its lurid colors not to be washed off forever, it would seem. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons Washington: Brentano. \$2.50.)

A New Bird Book. P. M. Silloway's "Sketches of Some Com-mon Birds," is another of those books which call the unmindful urban to the remembrance that nature has glories of God's making which all the agrifications of art cannot duplicate. The friendship with nature is almost universal, but it cools if we remove ourselves from her and her creatures Books which recall to our minds the glorie of the country are welcome visitors, es pecially when they are the legates of the birds, usture's voice. The present volume is made up of something more than sketches in soite of the title, for the author gives us insight into the life and histories of the birds we see and hear. With an interest which begets a charm

ing intimacy, we follow the author into the meadows, and there he points out to us the borned lark fleating cloud-ward. singing and souring; there we learn to kin w nore of the piping meadow lark, and the voluble bobolink, and become familiar with the voices and movements of other meadow musicians. We visit the orchard, and there watch the pretty ways of the "doubting bluebird," hear the reveilles of the relheaded woodpeckers, and observe interesting incidents in the lives of other orchard residents. Along the hengerows we ramble, there studying the homes and habits of the many tenants of the common osage hedges. Among the birds of the bushes we find many old friends seemingly in new attire, for the writer is a keen ob-server and calls attention to facts usually unnoticed by the casual stroller. His



hem a wealth of detail. He started from Palerons, the capital, and made the respecific objects of his description the in-portant towns, villages and other points of the Island. Monte Cuccio, Solunto, Plans Det Grect, Cefalu, Corleone, Segesta, Trapant, Eryx, Girjentt, Caronia, Acradina and many others. As noted, the traveler observed with a dual vision, one for the picture-que of today, the other for the historical of yesterday, and scarcely is there a note fruitful field for the itin tant student of the growth and mutation

I geography. When the Mediterranean was the only

The volume is a thing of intrinsic beauty The cover is a delicate vellow linen, almo the lightness of cauxy; the type face is exquisitely clear; the handsome paper receives it well, and the half a bundred full-page illustrations repeat pictoriall) what the author writes so graphically More serious than the attractive chatti ness of the main portion of the book are the three essays at the end, each an appendix, on the Mafia, Brigandage and he Sicilian Question. The last may be indeptood in the comprehensive statem made often by French, German and Italian Italy," (New York: Harper & Bros Washington: Woodward & Lothrop. \$2,50.

"Historic New York."

"Historic New York" is not a unified and secutive history of our largest clis It is rather a symposium. The volume is made or of disconnected monographs on historic localities on Manhattan Island. nd their only common point is geography and excellence. They have the probable advantage over a single history of equal length in that fourteen men and women have diligently devoted then selves to an undertaking which otherwise would represent the effort of only one.

tion known as the City History Club, renarkable in the fact that within the fir year of its existence it has increased to the number of forty classes. To meet the needs of this rapidly growing body of tudents, the editors of the Half Moo Papers undertook to superintend the pub lication of a series of monographs annually, which should be easily accessible for those who neight not find it convenient ments contained in the libraries. Their distoric and literary worth recommend them, bowever, to an audience larger than

the one for which they were designed.

The twelve papers are "Fort Amsterdam in the Days of the Dutch," by Maud Wilder Goodwin; "The Stat Huys of New Amsterdam," by Alice Morse Earle: "The Early flistery of Wall Street," wald Garrison Villard; "Annetie Jans Farm " by Ruth Putnam; "The City Chest of New Amsterdam," by Edward Dana of the Island of Manhattan," (I and II) by George Everett Hill and George E. Waring, jr.; "Old Greenwich," by Eilsabeth Bisland; "The Fourteen Miles Round," by Alfred Bishop Mason and Mary Marcock Mason; "King's College," by John B. Pine; "The Bowery," by Edward Kingwood Hewitt and Mary Ashley Hewitt, Governor's Island," by Blanche Wilder Beliamy. The pictures and maps add greatly to the beauty of the volume and to the facility of the reader's understand-

New York of today is more or les familiar to all intelligent readers, and it is pleasant to revert with these interesting writers to the early history of the great spirit and grace, colorful as the story of city, from the time that the Dutch estab lished Fort Amsterdam and Annetje Jans and her bushand took possession of their farm, which is now the most thickly settled portion of the city, until Wall street became an incipient power in finance, fore-

friends of the highway and dooryard provto be ours as well, and his sketches of the robin. Baltimore delide, rose-breasted or a beak, and other dogrvard visitors will sure); fanisheen husinsmany laient friend-ship for the birds in the mind of the reader. Woodlands, river tank, and swamp-lake, and the regal birds of beak and talon furnish subjects of interesting and delightful sketches, which will lead the reader into habits of closer observation and more intimate friendship for nature.

Days," shows this in a marked degree. It dreamy, delicious fascination of the Mermaid City, of love for her eliate, her colorings, her treasures of the past, and her people, especially the go dollers. To read this book is like traveling Veretian waterways, without the possible discentorts of the experience. One of the characteristic bits of description is that of the Fishermen's Quarter with its saxxing lines and semi-decayed timbers. This is what the artist-architect-authorites

The little devils of rot and decay, deep down in the water, are at the bottom of all this settling and toppling of jamb and lintel They are really the guardians of the pioesque, earch any facade in Venice, from flow to cornice, and you cannot find two Scarch any facade in Venice, from flow line to cornice, and you cannot find two lines plumb or parallel. This is because these imps of destruction have helped the teredo to munch and gnaw and hore, undermining foundation pile, grillage and hed stone. If you later some day over the side of your gondols you will hear one of these oid piles creak and grean as it says and settles, and then up comes a bubble as if all the flends below had broken into a laugh at their triumph.

Thus change goes on everywhere. No sooner does any inhabitant of the earth huid a monstreetty of right-angled triangles, than the little lings set to work. They know that Mother Nature deests a straight line, and so they summon all the fairy forces of sun, wind and frost to break and bend and twist, while they scuttle and bere and dig, until sone fine morning after a siege of many rears, you stumble them.

and tore and dig, unit some fine morning after a siege of many reals, you stumble upon their victim. The doge who built it would shake his head in despair, but you forgive the tireless little devils—they have made it so delightfully picturesque.

There are more than 200 pages of luminous, fanciful, daintily worded de-scriptions of Venice and her ways, and some of them are much finer than the specimen quoted above. The book is ilastrated by the author, and artistically whole production, and that might be de ended on the ground of informality. Smith insists on using the second personal pronoun to an extent hitherto unprece-dented in literature. He goes on with page after page of placid statements that 'you' do this, or go there, or are treated hes and so, until it is rather maddening to reflect that the person addressed may never do these delightful things. Besides, it is not very good ristoric. (New York and Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Wash ington: All Booksellers. \$1.50.)

Modern Spain. "Spain in the Minetcenth Century" is the ast of a series of historical narratives, by Elizabeth Wormeley Latimer. The author modestly says that the does not claim the title of a historian, but others will be read; to yield her this name, nevertheless. As a clear, pleasantly worded and fully detailed account of the last hundred years in Spain the work will certainly be useful to sta dents. It is always hard to get trust worth information about contemporary history, and this book will come as a delightful relief to many people who have been trying to learn something about the much-tossed

about kingdom of Spain. "The History of Spain," begins the au thor, "since she sank from wealth and greatness into a second-rate, impoverished power, is one continued tangle of revolutions." This in itself makes a work like the present greatly needed. of the earlier chapters of the book

picturesquely called The Lion in the Skin of a Fox, deals with the French invasion of Spain, under Napoleon, and tells the story in a stirring way. The massacre of Madrid is thus described

Madrid is thus described:

Men and women were walking abroad and all danger scemed at an end when Murat commenced a massacre. Spaniards who had bad nothing to do with the riot were seized because they happened to be in the town. They were dranged before a French military commission and sentenced at once to be shot. News of these executions spread like wildfire through the city. Every family, all of whose male members were not under its roof, suffered agontes of apprehension. By distant sounds of firing all knew that the work of death was going on. Two by two the victims were marched out and massacred by repeated volleys of muskerty. All were denied in their hast moments the consolations of religion. The work next morning recommenced, and nearly a hundred victims had perished before Murat, at the earnest intervession of the Spanish ministers, put a stop to the carmage. " Within a week after the tidings of the untoward massacre reached Baronne, the Emperished before Murat, at the Emperished before in the indistinct of the spanish ministers, put a stop to the carmage of the untoward massacre reached Baronne, the Emperished before Murat, at the Emperished before hund, at the most here, cruel and deternanced war into which he had ever led or dispatched his legions—war to the death with an unshisciplined and high-spirited people, where each uninfought for his own hand. Hitherto his battalions had fought regular troops, and these they had always conquered; they were wholly imprepared for the guerrilla warfare they were now to face among the mountains and ravines of the hasque Country, or Catalonia.

There is a pretty and pathetic chapter while To the Troops from the Nursery.

There is a pretty and pathetic chapter called To the Throne from the Nurser; on the accession of the young Queen La bella, in the early forties, when Washing ton Irving was United States ambassador to Madrid; and extracts from Mr. Irving's pro vateletters are given, which afford glimpse of the thirteen-year old maiden in the midst of more or less turbulent scenes, striving to bear herself with the dignity becoming Queen. And there is another chapter of another gut queen. Mercedes, the chiblist sweeth-art of Alfonso XII, who died, after five months of married happiness, in 1878 The present King Alfonso XIII, born May 17, 18-6 is the son of the second marriage of Allense XII, a marriage nucle purely for state reasons. The very last chapter of the book deals with a topic of vival interest to this country, Spain's treatment of Culta and the action of Canovas. The talker specific decidedly against the plan of nonexa-tion, but is otherwise non-committal. The portraits, which are scattered through

tire book, more than twenty in number, will add mach to its interest, being finely en graved and full of expression. Altogether this modest volume is one which students of contemporary history will be glad to own. (Chicago: A. G. McClurg & Co. Washing ton: Brentano, \$2.50.)

Recent Fiction.

Readers of Harper's Magazine during the last few months have been attracted to a serial story called "Spanish John," by the copious and splendid illustrations accompanying the text. Upon reading the narrative interest in the pictures and admiration for the artist were quickly shared by the engaging tale and its clever raconteur. The writer was William Mc Lennan, hitherto inconspicuous in this field, "Spanish John" was last week re-: beautiful book with all of the attractive illustrations, Which were a part of its success in the magazine. The story is a remance of the days of the Scotch Fretender, and its hero is one of the Mc Donnells, of Scotland, Designed for the priesthood he goes to Rome to study, but early discovers that he is not working to wards his real vocation and leaves college to join the Spanish troops in Italy. His achievements in buttle distinguish him and he accepts from the Pretender's son the mission of conveying a large sum of mone; to Scotland After many difficulties to reaches Scotland with the gold, only to have it stoler after his arrival. This I snot he end of the story, which finishes as all omantic stories properly should with the sero triumphant and his enemies van ed, but it gives an idea of the tenor of the tale. It is admirably developed with a rich imagination and a vigorous style

of the British for the rock of Gibraltar. The hero is just the sort of a boy we glory in, a courageous, loval had who prefers to be an American naval officer rather than to be an English peer. Such was the op-portunity of Miss Seawell's Archie Busker rille, and such was his choice. His seiza. by a press-gang is the initial incident on a of adventures, which colonical finally in his promotion to a captaincy of the American pavy. The period of the story is that of about 1780. Some of famous characters introduced Ben anna Franklin and Paul Jones. Miss Seawell's publishers have been generous to her in the matter of illustrations. ere are twenty well-known and appr. priate full page drawings by A. I. Kell r (New York: Harper & Bros. Wa Woodward & Lothrop. \$150.) Anyone rending Margaret Sutton Bris

coc's story of "Jimty," which is the initial sale of her collection bearing that title. will be tempted to read onward, and the varying charm of the others will lead him unhesitatingly through the entire dogen which fill the book. The interest in Jimty-a name derived from James T., through its natural evolution into Jim T is shared by his father, who is a ruined inginian seeking work in New York and lisplaying a strange coalescence of worthlessness and nobility. A more impressive sketch is 'It is the Custom," describing describing the supreme and terrible authority of a Bussian persant over his daughter. The last three stories are "A Goose Chase " "An Loaf." They group together in that the same man is the hero of all three and all share the enjoyableness in his stronge adventures. In "A Goose Chase" we find him following the lead of a flock of geese on a no less important errand of discovery than to find which of two girls he will marry. In the "Wooding" he wins a wife by his skill in clearing her potato patch of bettles. Finally in "The Quarter Loaf" ver him the parent of a baby so small that it is introduced to a cateer in a dime muscum. The other stories "The Price of Peace," "An Echo," Christmas Summer," "Concealed Weapons,"
"Annie Tousey's Little Game," "Princess I-Would-I-Wot-Not," and "Salt of the Earth." There are drawings by W. T. Smedley and A. B. Frost, (New York-Washington: ward & Lothrop. \$1.50.)

W. Petit Ridge has written a number of novels and be doesn't belie his experience in his last story, "Secretary to Bayne, M. P." This is an English story, though it starts off bravely in the Rue Lafayette, Paris, but as quickly as the train will take them the characters introduced at the beginning of the first chapter are whisked overto Löndon. There is a decided flavor of cosmopolitanism in the story for besides the French and English touches there is eastern Europe represented by a prince, and Russia represented by both spics and Nihilists. Another element of variety and contrast is found in the fact that though the hero's position as secretary to a member of Parliament keeps I im much of the time in a genteel atmosphire, he strays into London's squalid East End in search of enlightenment on social conditions. (New York: Harper & Bros. Washington: Woodward & Lothrop. \$1 25.)

LITERARY NOTES.

The Lounger in the Critic belies his name. He is really a sprightly fellow, or, in defference to Miss Gilder, tot it be said she is a sprightly woman. Last week she had a rich fund of new gossip. stance, we learn that W. D. Howells is domiciled in an apartment house in uppe New York writing a new novel; that Mark Twain's English publisher gave credit on the title page to the typewriter for her share of labor on the new book; that the cover design for 'Following the Equator was made by F. Berkeley Smith, a son of F. Hopkinson Smith, that the Paris Figure calls Mr. Clemens' daughter "M'lle. Mark Twain;" that Harvard is to have a Phillips Brooks memorial; and various other items The Critic is one of the most dependable newsy, care ully written, and soundly critical periodicals in the literary world.

There is no other book of short storie ecciving at present the flattering aften-ion from the ravisars that is accorded Paul Kester's "Tales of the Real Gypsy." booksellers list it among their flest selling books. Mears Doubledtiv & Matture find t one of the most called for of any issue ince their establishment.

"The Bentzon," Munc. Blanc, bus bee awarded a prize of \$300 by the French Academy for her collected articles from the Revue des Benx Mondes, "Le insticaines Ches Elles.

The eighth autiversary of the death of Robert Browning December 12, Was con emerated at Report Prewning Hall, Will London. The address was given ly Mr. Augustine Birrell. It may be remembered that last year's numbered vas kent-at Marviebone Parish Chorot golden wedding of the Brown ings was celebrated.

"Literature," the new international periodical, calls attention to the lit erary importance and activity of Chicago HARKS

The libraries of Birmingham and Boston showed for 1896 a circulation of above 500,000; that of Mancheser, one of 975, 000; that of thicago one of the more than 1,000,000. In can case, of course, figures were greatly swelled by episcoral fiction and the like; but, with all allowance for this, such figures mean great mental activity. Of this Chicago shows many other signs. For one thing, it has at least two other important floraries in active operation—the Newhorty and that of the University of Chicago. This university, only four years old, is already an educational canter of in pottance, not fairly to be judged by such feats as Mr. Moniton's, who is trying to make modern readers' accept the revised version of the libbe as literature. Again, the daily press of Chicago naturations an average metit which one is sometimes disposed to think the highest in America.

Dr. John Watson (Ian Maciaren) has de lined the call to a London pulpit. At the same time he has told his Liverpool con-regation just what it cost him in mental effort to preach continuously to the same people: "No one who is not a preach?" he says) can ever imagine the agony of production. To preach to the same people tree times a week, and to depend upon s lickle, and in my case, so slow, an instrument as the brain-bow can one contime without losing power and becoming stale and unprofitable? What a relief to begin again, to recast and incove one's message for unaccustomed are and new hearts." In connection with his Mis- Gilder says that fir. Watson bould "shake up the barrel. There is nothing that congregations forget so quickly as a sermon-

An entertaining Unicago feuilletonist es as at once and imparts the news of Mr. Hawkins' Western fathere in this

intimate friendship for nature.

The author's happy faculty of presenting has subject effectationary will convert the study of ornithology into a terreation, for it gives inspiration as well as information. The volume is illustrated with half-tones from photographs made, with few exceptions, by Dr. R. W. Shifelitt, of them on this account, node from its file exceptions, by Dr. R. W. Shifelitt, of them on this account, node from its file exceptions, by Dr. R. W. Shifelitt, of them on this account, node from its file exceptions, by Dr. R. W. Shifelitt, of them on this account, node from its file exceptions in situ. (Cincinnati: The Edito: Publishing Company, Washington Bretano, \$1.50.)

Moline Elliott Seawell is represented in the most recent list of publications with a new story for boys, which any youthful lover of accenture and hetoism might be giad to read and possess. It is called that the always seems to be in love with this subject. His latest book, "Gondola Days," which is the extraction of the British for the rock of Gibraliar.

Mr. Hawkins' fluancial failure of Anthony Riopes readings in Chicago is standing which the writer has for the reading in this comparative financial failure of Anthony Riopes readings in Chicago is standing which the writer has for the reading in the carpoing than the desire for an Upor Part and he as tending in the special from its subject and the public reader and propositions. The comparative financial failure of Anthony Riopes readings in Chicago is an Interest in the study of the comparative financial failure of Anthony Riopes readings in Chicago is an Interest in the study of the comparative financial failure of Anthony Riopes readings in Chicago is an Interest in the study of the carpoing and and a vigorious relation of the desert for an Upor Part and the Anthony Rodes of the anthony Rodes of the Lone in the study of the comparative financial failure of Anthony Riopes and Indianation Chicago is an Interest in the study of the carpoing straining for the strongle from its fil

Mr. Bawkins' Buancial experience in Washington was not dissimilar to that in the Lake City.

Prof. Lawrence Duntar, since his listment in the Congressional Liberry forces, has been giving some readings in this city. They have been public af-fairs, but they have been conducted as a so successfully quiet plan that the general public has been kept quite in ig notance of the events. Perhaps no p doing it mercly for practice; and will ap peal to a larger public when he feels us accomplished for it is said that each apnearative shows on improveme crety in his delivery, but in his ladge ment in making selections.

Algernon Charles Swinburne thus adtexas the Landon Times on the proposed English Academy, fashioned on PAcae

emie Francaiss: emic Francais:

Sir. In this decodent month, after the great sea serpent has assaily risen oncomere to the surface of the press—only perhaps, to be cheked in a far from miscossimable effort to emissive the digestion of other contributors by awallowing the gigantic gooseberry—no sensithe man will feel and no housest man will affect surprise at the resurrection of a nore "rimination monster" than these. The notion of an English academy is too seriously stuppi for farce and too essentially vulgar for connedy. But that cmy is too seriously stapid for farce and too essentially vulgar for somedy. But that a man whose outspoken derision of the academic ideal or idea has stood on record for more than a few years, and given deep offense to nameless if high-minded consors by the frank expression of its contempt and the unqualified venemence of its rigi-cule, should enjoy the unsoliteited honor of nomination to a nominent place in a conomination to a position to place in so un-maginoble a gathering—collovies literaring probably would turn out to be if ever it long into shape and wideled into existence - well, it seems to me that the full and well, it seems to me that the foll and proper definition of so preposterous an im-perthence must be left to others than the bearer of the name selected for the adula-tion of such insult.

The December Pabelot contains a tragedy. The Death of Maclowe," by Richard Hengist Horne. It is a valuable restora Mr. Moser, for January, will republish "Saint Agnes of Intercession."

Mr. H. G. Wells is engaged upon an an bitious novel showing forth the life of great cities as It will be 200 years ben When the Sleeper Wakes' is to be it title. It will probably be more interestin: than Mr. Bellamy's peep into the future ha

A new novel by Richard Marsh is being counced in the English papers, the title of which is "The Beetle," and which, ac ording to the Daily Graphic, "is the kind of book which you put down only for the purpose of turning up the gas and making that no person or thing is standi behind your chair-and it is a lock which no one will put down until finished excep for the reason above described."

Mrs. Craigie (John Oliver Hobbes) is said ey an English publication to have a seriou intention of devoting berself to the produc tion of works relating to biography and history, in both of which she takes great interest. In answer to a question that was recently asked her as to why in writing she did not use her own name (Pearl), and as to why she took such a name as Oliver Hobbes, she said that it was to keep NOTES AND QUERIES.

Is there any premium on the "white" of "eagle" United States cents, date of 1857 of 1858;

No; but those of 1856 are worth from \$1 to \$2.50, according to condition Is there a city called Colomb or Colombo anywhere? SUBSCRIBER.

The principal city of Ceylon is called Colombo. It is not named for Colombos, but it was called Kalambu, a corruption perhaps of the original name, Kalamtotta.

What are the four best schools of en-gineering in the United States? A. P. Probably, the Institute of Technology, Boston: the Sherried Scientific School, New Haven, Conn.; the School of Mines, Columbia College, New York, as Lawrence Scientific School, Cambridge,

To whom should I apply in London, Eng., for a list of neirs whose claims have lapsed to the crown? P. T. W. S.

For a list of estates which have reverted to the crown apply to the treasury selicit ir, Whitehall, London, for a fist of "dornam estates in chancery" apply to the chancery fund commissioners, Law Courts, London.

In what years did Queen Victoria visit. Ireland? 2. What year was Daniel O'Connell elected to Parliament? J. K. Queen Victoria landed in Dublinon August-4, 1852; again in August and September, 1853, and in August 1861. 2. In 1828, he took his seat as member for Clare a August of that year. Please tell me where were the parents f Charley has when he was stellar from hem, and how old was he? W. H. J.

Mr. Ross was at his business in Philadel-dia; Mrs. Ross was at home. Charley Ross was out on the street with his eld brother, he was four years old, but looked

Did Dumas' three muskeeters really live? 2. What became of King Louis XIV s twin brother after his improvement in the has-tile?

R. S. D'Artagnan did. The others were drawn

several models. 2. It is not certain that Louis XIV had a twin brother. Please let me know what a man of fixe

feet, live mones, also a man of live feet, seven inches, ought to weigh in order to be in proportion? READER. A man of rive feet, five inches tall should A man of rive feet, five mones tall smalled weight 140 pounds; the minimum weight should be 119 pounds, and the maximum 175. A man of five feet, seven inches should weigh 150 pounds, with a minimum of 127 and a maximum of 187 peaners.

What is the numishment of a United States sodder if he deserts the Army and is captured. 2. Whet is the reward for the capture and return of a deserter.

He must serve out his time in prism perhaps; and may be punished further as a courtemartial may direct.

A and B both have wagons of the same make and size. The wheels of A's are four feet in chaineter and h's two feet. Owing to the size of his wheels A clause the lighter draft. B's wheels being smoller, e claims the lighter draft. Where is fight and way?

A is right. The power needed to pull the wagon is to the weight as the radius of the axis is to the radius of the wheel. If you work it out you will find that A's wagon is pulled more easily.

Can a young man study haw at home with any success, and can a young man with a good English education sure a law embed on an equal focung with a college graduate? 2. What should I first do to study haw at home, and what books should I procure.

A SUBSCRIBER.

. He can study at home, but he would better enter a law office and study under the direction of an older person. A knowledge of the classics is required in many law geneous. A college graduate is credited with a certain amount of work done which is not allowed to the non-graduate 2. Get a lawyer's advice and look up the requirements of admittance to the bur and study to fill them. The books vary from B betw M that there is one-third more

business done in one were a one filled mates on the New York Stock Market than there is on the London Stock Market Is be right?

right?

There are no definite figures of the business of the London market obtains bic; no record is kept there of the amount of sides. Only the price at which a sale is made is quoted; not even the asking price and the price but being recorded. But though the lots are smaller in Lendon than here (the standard lot is ten mores there and one hundred shares here; the business on the London market is said by a New York stock reporter of reputs to be larger on the New York Burghet. The Lambel Exchange divides the raiway shares into Exchange divides the raiway shares into Home Rails. "Americans." Indian." "Colonial and "Foreign," it handles mines. Home. American, Indian, Colonial, For-eign, brewery shares, oundbus shares, cartwention shines, and probably six other varieties, and, then, it has the bands di-vaped into about as many kinds. We think that B loses the bet-

Kindly give description of the old fruste Constitution, and a constensed history for her completion to the present day? Let completion to the present day?

The Constitution was designed by John Hamphrey, of Philadelphia, and built by by George Claghorn, in Focton; she was launched October 2), 1797, baving been three years in building and cost, mady for sea, about \$330,000. She is 175 feet or sea, about Sausana, 141-2 feet deep, ong, 43 1-2 feet team, 141-2 feet deep, with a formage displacement of 1.57%. She was called a forty-four-gun frigute, but carried thirty 24-pounders on her main deck, twenty two 32-pound carronades or her spar deck and two 24-pound chasers She served in the Mediterranean in 1803-1806; in the war of 1812, under Rull, defeated the Guerriete: under Painbridge, defeated the Java: under Stewart, the Cyane and the Levant. She was in the Mediterranean in 1840-41 and in the Pacific, 1844-17. From 1861 to 1872 was a school ship at Animpolis, and has been laid up most of the time since then.

Who is the author of the poemeonascening. I would rainer live in Hoherma than any other late." What book would give me the test bles of the altruistic manners of king of the Bolemian people? 2. Why will universities and the legher instituwill universities and the higher institu-tions of training hot recognize and teach phrenology? Is it not just as important a science as many other branches taught and worthy of as much careful research? 3. What book would give one a good general knowledge of grandmar whose opparanties have not enabled him to become faudar with school grandmar? Student. John Boyle O'Rellly, the poem is called

"In Behemia" and does not refer to the inhabitants of Bohemia, but to the scalled "Bohemians"—literary people of more or less reputation and little or no money, in whom, according to themselves, were found all the redeeming whos and all the necessary virtues. O'kelliy was supposed to be a Bolemian, and his facth idealizes the Bolemians. Novintary the only "Bolemians" are called tramps and is. 2. Because it has not been decided that phrenology is a real science, or that it is of any value whatever. 3. A grammur.

How does the money made at the Eureau of Engraving and Printing get into general or culation? 2. What is a tank clearing? 3. What is the difference between natural and representative currency. 4. When is the talance of trude to you do. The Government has to pay its expenses, and remines old

which are enormous, and replaces old bills with new ones, so the money scatters quickly. 2. A comparison of the business done by and between two or more banks and a settlement of the differences in amounts by the payment of a small of money. Thus Fank A own B \$1,000, and B owes A \$800: 0 A pays B \$200, the matter is cettled. The other day a New York bank settled 58,000,000 worth of business by paying \$1,0.00 mershib.

3. A natural currency is a currency that has some intrinsic value—like to the Spartan's iron money, the Virginia tohaccommey, our own gold and silver representations for the spart of the spart tative currency represents acmething of value, but has no intrinsic value of its own, like our paper money, bank checks, etc. 4. When we experted more goods than we imported, it used to be said that the balance of trade was in our favor.